

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

An apparatus to generate a seek direction detecting signal for an optical pickup to determine a position of a center of an optical spot focused on an optical disk relative to a center of a track, which focuses a main beam on a first optical detector and a sub-beam having a predetermined aberration in a radial direction on a second optical detector using a light dividing unit. The second optical detector has an inner and an outer pair of light receiving portions arranged along the radial direction, the inner pair being between the outer pair. A signal processing portion includes a first signal processing portion to detect a track error signal from signals output from the first optical detector, and a second signal processing portion to generate the seek direction detecting signal from signals detected by the second optical detector and the track error signal.